BARNUM ESSAYS IN B. H. S. COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

THE PASSION PLAY

(By Henry Lee Irwin.)

Early in the twelfth century, there called the Miracle Play, which gained | Who that has witnessed the Passion it had entirely passed out of existence there, beholds Him falling under the except in southern Germany. Here weight of the cross. How heartin a little Bavarian village, the Mir-acle Play continues, and has been "Oh, my God, it is my Son, my presented every tenth year up to the Jesus!" present time. To this village thousproduced-the Oberammergau Pas-

access, differing greatly in this respect tor hangs there. This is the most from former years. The visitor can realistic scene of all. Apparently the now travel all the way from Munich to Oberammergau by train, whereas, formerly he was obliged to ride most of the way in a crude conveyance over hausting it must be to remain so long a rough and dangerous mountain pass. In that position. No wonder that the The building of the railroad, of course. makes it possible for much larger he is taken down. The crucifixion crowds to attend the Passion Play, and asseresult about four thousand for the Resurrection and Ascension people now witness the play every time of its performance.

On approaching the village, one is struck by the beauty of the scenery. On every side lie mountains, whose snow-covered peaks glisten in the sun; while below, acres and acres of verdant pasture spread out, dotted here indeed it is, for the people to realize and these by a thatched roofed cottage and its surrounding farm. Two thousand feet about the village, the stately summit of Mt. Kofel rises, where the village people have erected a massive cross, which seems to stand among mortals, teaching the ways of guard over the inhabitants down below. Now and then the ear is start- sion of the Oberammergau Passion led by the sound of a mountain tor- Play, and it is for this that the Barent, which rushes madly down the mountain side, into the river Ammer, world every ten years—to awaken which winds its course in and out feelings of love and devotion, which through the valley and enriches the land for miles around. Oberammergau itself, is a quaint little village.

The principal street is lined on either THE DDEVALUATION OF side by a row of cottages, all immaculate and shining with their white-washed walls. Indeed it is by no means uncommon to see the whole front of a house covered with an elaborate painting, representing some Biblical or religious scene. Such is the village into which a vast cosmopolitan crowd is ushered, each time the train makes a stop.

The regular day on which the Pas-

sion Play is acted, is Sunday. This makes it necessary for those who in- less than four million. At the beginby Saturday, tickets cannot be procured otherwise than from the landlord, at whose house one has spent the night. The village people, ever ready to furnish enterta ment for their guests, do not allow the evening to pass without some excitement. About eight o'clock the ear is startled by the sound of de. From the window one sees a band marching proudly along the street. Close behind comes the village fire department, the pride of Oberammergau, which is always much in oe on festive occasions. This excitement over most of the visitors retire for the night, for it is necessary to obtain a good night's sleep, as on the morrow, one must rise early and sit through an eight hours' perform-

By six o'clock Sunday morning, rain or shine, the whole town is astir. After hearing mass, the players, some four hundred in number, make their way to the theatre, whither they are shortly followed by the great crowd of interested spectators. The theatre is an interesting specimen of architec-The tiers of seats rise up gradually from the massive stage, and spread out, fan shape, giving an unobstructed view to each one of the four thousand spectators. Six steel arches support the roof, which covers only the back portion of the auditorium. The forepart of the theatre is open to the sky, and the hills in the distance form a most appropriate background for the scenes in the play. There are sixteen entrances, all carefully marked, so that it is very easy for the audience to find their proper The cost of building the theatre and properly staging the play is said to be about \$125,000, which amounts to about half the season's

At exactly eight o'clock a cannon sooms, echoing loudly through the From either side of the stage enters the chorus, composed of thirtyfour persons of both sexes, who lift their voices in such perfect harmony and move with such stately grace, that one can hardly realize that these people are the simple folks that were seen yesterday busily engaged in their daily occupations. While they are singing a prologue, the curtain in the central part of the stage slowly rises and discloses the first tableau, which represents the expulsion of Adam and Bve from the Garden of Paradise. Each one of the seventeen acts is preceded by a tableau which represents a scene from the Old Testament and in a way prepares the audience for the coming act. In this case, the expulsion from the Garden foretells the scene, wherein Christ drives the traders from the temple. After the chorus has left the stage and the curtain has descended on the tableau, a vast crowd of some three hundred people rush forth, crying in joyful acclama-"Hosanah! Hosanah!" and at same time strewing palm branches upon the ground. Behold, riding in their midst appears the Christ. Many a sigh of relief goes forth from the onlookers, upon finding their conception of Christ realized so perfectly in the man before them.

Now follows the scene in which Christ drives the traders out of the temple, and in His anger overturns the dove-cotes, at which, the doves set free, fly out over the audience to their horres in the village. Everything is so vivid and realistic that the spectators are held spellbound. For four est nations of the earth is a strong hours the scenes follow one another in claim for its world-wide use. quick succession, then a period of two | Now that we have seen the points hours elapses, in which both audience in its favor, let us see what the draw- son. In the ninth year, however, the been tried to any extent. It is lawful strenuous acting of the afternoon.

ery player's talent is called forth in a from the way in which they are spellspecial manner. The slightest mis- ed. Even the most practical critic ambition of every boy to bear the part have been obtained and they have take in the tone of the voice, in a gesture even, would ruin all. In the greatly improved. It is here that fordream, to be worthy to represent are not given to strikes. chamber scene of the last supper eigners have the greatest difficulty when Christ and His twelve apostles with our language. The grammar is are seated about the table—the be-loved St. John and the traitor Judas, stood, but the spelling is extremely Peter and all the rest-what solemn- difficult. Another criticism is that ity prevails! There is hardly a face we have so many sounds for one letthat is not wet with tears as the ter, especially for the vowels. Some Christ, down on his knees, bathes the people advocate making over the feet of his followers; and there is not alphabet, adding several new sounds. a heart that does not silently cry out | Another drawback is the tendency against the traitor Judas as he, to- to fall into dialects. But with the gether with the rest says, "Is it I, constant intercourse between English-Master, who is about to betray Thee?" speaking people, and because of the After this the scene changes to the fact that we possess a common litera-Garden of Gethsemane when the ture, accessible to men of every rank apostles three times fall asleep while and every country, this is not a very keeping watch with the Master. Then appalling danger. But we can detect Judas enters and imprints the kiss of differences in the accent of people in betrayal. In breathless suspense, different parts of our country, and it does the audience view all these scenes; there is scarcely a sound from the four thousand assembled, and do fall into dialects, the English langmany of this number are wiping away | uage will not be preserved, and there-

Still more affecting is the scene, wherein Christ, loaded with a heavy eross, slowly and painfully treads his eross, slowly and painfully treads his language.

But a great deal depends upon us. We must keep the English language bath, and every week-day, when the locks at Gatun. These that it was in the right. Many a performance being given every Sablocks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath, and every week-day, when the locks at Gatun. These that it was in the right. Many a performance being given every Sablocks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath, and every week-day, when the locks at Gatun. These that it was in the right. Many a performance being given every Sablocks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath, and every week-day, when the locks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath, and every week-day, when the locks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath, and every week-day, when the locks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath, and every week-day, when the locks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath and the product of the public time his humorous stories won a bath and the product of the public stories are locks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath and the product of the public stories are locks are each 1,000 feet long and 110 time his humorous stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the public stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the product of the public stories won a bath and the public stories wo great popularity throughout England, Play can ever forget the meeting be-France, Germany, and in fact through- tween Mary, the mother, and her di-

The scene now changes to Mount ands will flock during the present Calvary. Upon the ground lies the summer, for this is the year in which cross, and stretched upon it, the figure the world's greatest drama will be of the Saviour, and as the curtain rises, the sound of the hammer is heard. Soon the cross is raised on Nowadays Oberammergau is easy of high, and for twenty minutes the achands of the Christ are pierced by bloody nails and no support is anywhere in evidence. Imagine how exactor often faints with fatigue before scene is really the climax of the play. scenes, which follow, are very brief and seem unimportant to the specta-

When at length the curtain falls for the last time, a moment passes-no one stirs. Slowly and silently then the audience leaves the theatre. Hard, that they are living in the twentieth century; their thoughts are too full of the events that took place nineteen hundred years ago, when there was One sent from Heaven who walked sion of the Oberammergau Passion

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

(By Miss Annie Murray Laing.) Let us see first how far the English language has prevailed. Toward the end of the fifteenth century the English-speaking people, living almost entirely in the British Isles, numbered ve in Ob- ning of the twentieth century, a little more than four hundred years later, the number had increased to one hundred and twenty-six million, no longer limited to the British Isles, but scattered all over the world in the United States, Canada, Africa, Australia, Asia, and the hundreds of colonial islands. The English people and the English language have spread wonderfully in the past; why should they not in the future? But their growth will probably not be so great, for there is not the same extent of territory open for settlement.

> But as to the prevailing of the language among nations which are not English-speaking. English is said to be in a sense, the official language of Japan, and may be adopted for general use. It is taught more than any other foreign language in the schools of Europe, and travelers on the continent are surprised at the fluency with which so many people speak it. Professor Schroer, in advocating the compulsory teaching of English in the schools of Germany, says that there is need of a universal language, but that languages such as Volapuk, having no literature, are not acceptable. He says further, "Nor are they necessary, for a world language already exists; that is to say a language, which, by its extension over the whole globe, and the ease with which it can be learned, has obtained such a foothold, that nothing can prevent it becoming in the near future, the great means of international communication. This language is English."

Will English ever be the universal language? Will there ever be any universal language? Some authorities say there will; others, that there never will be such a language. Brander Matthews says, that if there is a world language, it will be either English or Russian-not German, or Spanish, or French. He gives as a reason, the decline in the spread of the latter tongues within the last few centuries while the former have increased wonderfully, and are still in-

But what advantage has the Engish language over other languages that it may claim universality. It is said to be more readily understood by foreigners than any foreign language s by the English, and this is surely a great point in its favor. Then too, as Professor Schroer said, it can be learned easily. One reason for this is the simplicity of its grammar, it is the only language which is free from inflexions, "as if," says one writer, "it were predestined for universality." And what a relief "no inflexions" means, only those who have

struggled through them know. Another important point is, that it s a sort of compromise, we might say, between two of the greatest languages of to-day-the French and the Ger-The language of Great Britain before the eleventh century was Anglo-Saxon, but after the Norman Invasion under William the Conqueror in 1066, the Normans began to come into England, bringing with them The Saxons struggled against giving up their language, but the natural intercourse between Saxon and Norman led to a fusion of the two languages so that our language now is a combi-

nation of both. Its already wide diffusion leads one to wonder if it will not continue to spread. Also, the fact that it is the native language of the two great-

the greatest of these is its irregular At two o'clock the performance is spelling. How many of our English resumed. Now is the time when ev- words are pronounced so differently

came into existence a form of drama, and heaping upon Him foul curses. bury says that the spread of our langout all of the Christian nations. But vine son! Worried by foreboding, she it. So, we must be nebic, if we wish as time went on, its popularity gradu-ally died away; and by the year 1600 Jerusalem, and while seeking Him think only the best things, if our language is to express the best thoughts.

that language shall be, must come of the future will be the language that a prophetic incident of Old Testament so that there will be not the slightest we use here in the United States, and it is for us to hand it down to our children, fitted for the service it is to render.

our language for its use as an international one.

We should feel as proud of our language as Lerd Houghton was when he said: "That ample speech! That subtle speech!

Apt for the need of all and each; Strong to endure, yet prompt to bend, Wherever human feelings tend.. Preserve its force, expand its power; And then the maze of civic life, In Letters. Commerce, even in Strife, Forget not it is yours and ours."

THE PASSION PLAY

(By Sarah Louisa Williams.) Far over the sea, in the heart or been the center of a movement which

Passion Play. Oberammergau did its utmost to ex- thus far, have been in vain. ceeded, until a man from a neighboring village crept in at night, to see his ers by the United States of Colembia, wife and child. With him came the to construct a canal across the Isthterrible plague, and before many months had passed, its ravages had wiped out most of the simple peasants. The few remaining ones gathered together in their church, and, since all human aid had proved useless, divine help was implored, and the people vowed that if the plague were stayed. they would at stated intervals, present scenes from the Old and New Testaments, and act the sufferings of their Saviour. From that day, no person died of the plague!

The next year, 1634, the first performance was given in the village churchyard, at first crude in its staging, costuming, and material, the play, copied from mediaeval manuscripts, was successful, and having been enlarged and revised since then by masters who have put into it new force and beauty, it has steadily improved. Performances were made every ten years, until 1670, when an extra presentation was given.

During the next century, several inerruptions occurred. At one playharsh invaders; at another, a war called the men to arms, and left too few inhabitants to give the play. Still another performance was omitted the influence of outsiders, who declared it sacreligious and persuaded government authorities to forbid it. The noble spirit of the Oberammergauers then voiced a petition for the withdrawal of this decree, and for one season it was withdrawn, but was later renewed. A second petition was framed, presenting every plausible reason for the continuation of the play. The solemn vow of their ancestors; the poverty of the people whom it helped to support; the already great expense which had been borne in order to improve play and theatre; the difference from outsiders in the time of its performance; the church, schools and roads which must remain unimproved without its receipts: the disappointment of visitors whom it had attracted; all plead for the repetition of the Passion Play. It was refused! Fortunately, a change in government revised the decision in favor of Oberammergauers, and henceforth, theirs only was the privilege of presenting it, at the time which

they approved. The village of Oberammergau is approached by a steep, winding road, once dangerous and uncut, up which one toiled on foot, later, paved and graded, so that wagons might ascend; now traversed by modern electric The Ammer river is always in view, the sparkling stream flowing quietly, steadily through the broad fertile, flower-decked valley, and giving no hint that it has twice overflowed its banks, bringing destruction to villages and poverty to the dwell-Overlooking both valley and village stands the Kofel, the most famous peak of the region, on the summit of which a cross shines in the sunlight. Even when clouds obscure the mountain, the cross is visible, suspended from Heaven, the symbol of divine protection to which the village has a pecullar right, and the guardian spirit of the Passion Play. The people themselves live much

as do other peasants of the mountain country. They are well educated, and have a soul for music. For nine years they pursue the ordinary routine, most of the men being expert "Mary." Parts and actors are discussed and considered, and the wisest

appointments made. ousy and covetousness is remarkable. the season are created without appar-ent effort, for each person strives to through will b considerably less. reproduce in his life, the character which he bears.

til the last few weeks of preparation.

He is followed by a made insulting would not be worthy of a position as tion. The capacious new theatre lies Gatun lake for thirty miles to the rabble, striking Him when He falls, a world language. Professor Louns. outside of the town, and seats about Culebra cut. Culebra is the highest

The vast audience first looks upon the splendidly arrayed choral host. Pedro Miguel and be lowered some The rich garments are only exceeded twenty-eight feet by the lock. A few in brilliancy and harmony by the miles further, it is again lowered by grand, pealing anthems of the chorus. the locks at Miraflores and from here Brander Matthews, in writing of the The swelling strains, containing the it will go to Panama. The whole opfuture of the English language, says story of the following events, are the erations being completed in about ten that it will be the language as spoken composition of Rochus Dedier. The or twelve hours. by all branches of the English race. play is the work of Othmer Weiss, "But," he says, "the dominant influence in deciding what the future of The story need not be reteld, for all safely leave this matter to the engiknow it well. Before each New Tesfrom the United States. The English tament scene a tableau representing it many times stronger than necessary,

history is presented. The whole is perfectly carried out, every person in the great panorama of the stage throwing heart and soul It is our duty to do what we can into his action, thus producing an ef- of former years. Recent reports say, vigorous to help it draw new life and fect which is thrilling in its simplicity vigorous to help it draw new ife and and lack of affectation. Every word, power from every proper source, to every action is real, and makes itself resist all attempts of pedants to felt. Its magnificence, harmony, and cramp it and restrain its healthy accuracy of reproduction appeal to the growth and to urge along the sim- soul, and find their answer and applification of its grammar and its preciation in the welling tears of orthography, so that it shall be ready thousands. The solemn loftiness and against the day when it is really a exquisite beauty of the scene inspire (By Miss Eleanor Agnes Cushman.) world language. Our responsibil- one with reverent awe, and hely enity it set clearly before us, and we thusiasm, and, glancing upward, the must face it, if we wish to prepare impression is deepened by the outlook upon grand peaks and shining valley, while the people disperse amid a silence that is felt.

One cannot view the Passion Play without feeling a new interest in re-ligion, a new depth in a noble faith, and a great uplift of spirit. By thus broadening millions of lives, the pebble, Passion Play, exerts a limitless circle of influence, which must widen throughout the pool of ages.

THE PANAMA CANAL

(By Robert Newton Blakeslee.)

Because of the great commercial advantages, which would be derived from connecting the Pacific with the Europe, lies the little village of Ober- Atlantic oceans, the attention of the ammergau, surrounded by snow-cap- whole engineering world has been ped mountains. This obscure part of centered on this enormous project. southern Germany has for centuries As early as the time of Columbus, men were seeking a straight passage has had world-wide influence-The to the East across the Atlantic and the then unknown Pacific oceans. Co-Many years ago, in 1633, the village lumbus, himself, was not looking for a near Oberammergau became afflicted new continent but rather a route to with a terrible plague, of which al- India. Numerous attempts have been most one-half of their population died. made to cut away this barrier but all,

> granted Lieut. Lucien Wyse and othmus of Panama. Immediately, an international congress was called and. in two weeks time, it had decided that a canal should be built between Colon and Panama. It was to be a sealevel canal without locks. The Panama Canal Co. was organized under the laws of France, with M. de Lesseps as president. Plans were drawn up and the company set to work excavating along the route. It waws calculated to cost \$127,000,000 and was to be finished in eight years. So confident was de Lesseps of his success and the accuracy of his calculations, that he even invited men of prominence to attend the opening which he set for 1888. But financially the affair was managed very poorly and a large part of the money was spent in bribes. So, after 1,300,000,000 francs had been spent and only 80,000,000 cubic yards had been taken out, the company was declared bankrupt.

An international congress in 1899 reported, that the work was two-fifths completed and that only \$102,000,000 more would be needed. President McKinley was authorized to appoint a commission to investigate the whole canal question. They decided in favor of the Nicaraguan route, because of financial reasons but, on receiving an offer from the Panama Canal Co. to sell it's property and franchise for \$40,000,000, they decided in favor of the Panama route. After a warm discussion in congress, it was determined to purchase the Panama Canal Co. if the title was clear. This was investigated and found to be all right so, the government bought out the French company with all it's equipment. Numerous treatles were made with

colombia and everything was settled satisfactorily. Then the government started on it's enormous task. Laws were passed; officials and judges were appointed, for the United States was to have full charge over the land for five miles on either side of the canal, and the president was given control of the whole canal. President Roosevelt appointed C. E. Morgan, head of government and sanitation; John F. Wallace, chief engineer, and Theodore Shonts financial secretary. While the department of sanitation

may seem, at first glance, to be unimportan, it is really just as important as the other two. The sanitary conditions on the isthmus were wretched. Yellow fever and malaria, yearly, claimed a large number of victims. Col. Gorges experimented repeatedly until he found that the yellow fever germ was carried by a certain specie of mosquitoes. Those mosquitoes were, fortunately, unable to fly any considerable distance, so that by enclosing the patients in screens, this plague, has been stamped out. Next he experimented with malaria and found that this, too, was carried by mosquitoes. To eliminate the deease was a much larger problem. drained all the pools and wells, in which stagnant water rested; cut all the vegetation away for a few hundred feet from each dwelling; constructed water works and paved the streets of the cities. By doing all this, he has solved the problem of

There has been great difficulty in securing labor, for, owing to the climate, none from the United States will serve and the negro laborers from Jamaica are inefficient and too few in numbers. wood-carvers, who dispose of their Secretary Taft suggested that coolie unique products during the play-sea- labor be imported but this has not and actors rest, in preparation for the backs are. All authorities agree that very atmosphere changes, for then a however, since the United States does council composed of pastor, mayor, not actually own the canal strip and and chief citizens distribute the parts | therefore would not violate the Chito the actors. Almost every villager nese Exclusion Acts. A large number has some part, and it is the highest of Spaniards, Italians and Greeks

Then the question as to which kind of canal arose. Not until 1906, was this important discussion closed and A time of dreaded suspense is the thus progress was delayed somewhat. few months before the announcement | Congress decided, that the Panama is made, and the grevious heart- canal was to be a lock canal with burnings, and bitter disappointments three locks in series at Gatun, two at are unavoidable, the absence of jeal- Miraflores and one at Pedro Miguel. The advantages of the lock canal Such traits would seem directly op- are: (1) it will cost \$200,000,000 less posite to the spirit of the play, and money, (2) it will not take within five each person now realizes, as never or six years as much time, (3) the before, the sacred character and vast channel at its narrowest part will be enormity of the project. The rever-ent attitude and holy atmosphere of sea-level canal and consequently the

A great earthen dam at Gatun will hold back the waters of the Chagres Rehearsals are held nightly, the river and form Gatun lake, whose surplay proper, and the chorus and tableaux being rehearsed separately un- that, when a ves el enters the harbor of Colon, it will be taken in charge by fore could not become a universal The play season begins near Easter the electric engines and conducted

four thousand. Formerly it had no part of the Isthmus and, because of roof, and on a rainy day, spectators the great difficulty of excavating the uage depends upon the character of the men who use it; that language expresses the ideas of those who speak spellbound upon the passing scenes. the Culebra cut, it will proceed to

> neers, who say, that they are making possibility of it giving away.

> The work at present is progressing very rapidly and the excavations of teh past year have far surpassed those that the work is being completed faster than was expected and that it is not unlikely that the canal will be finished before 1915.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

It was in the year eighteen hundred and nine, that a child who was destined to become one of the greatest men of the nation, was born. This child was Abraham Lincoln. It was not a very bright room in which he first opened his eyes, for his father's cabin was very rude and poorly built. However, he did not spend much of his childhood in the cabin in which he was born. The family moved from Kentucky to Indiana, when Abraham was but seven years old. About two years after their removal to Indiana, the little family was saddened by the loss of Mrs. Lin-coln, who died of quick consumption. Mr. Lincoln soon married again, bringing his orphaned children a

sensible woman for a mother. Abraham's new mother allowed him to attend school as much as possible, but all the schooling, that he received in his early life, could have been received in a year. However, he was quick to learn and was soon able to write. He did most of the writing for his neighbors and was noted among them, not only for his cleverness and craving for books, but also for his honesty and kindhearted-

In fact, all through his life, Abraham Lincoln was noted for his honesty and kindheartedness. When he was but a boy, he borrowed "The Life of Washington." Through some accident it was damaged while in his possession. Abraham worked three days to pay for the damage. He was then told that he had fairly earned the book and might keep it. At first, the boy was overcome with joy and gratitude, but he soon saw the justice of the act for had he not honestly earned the book?

When Abraham was about twentytwo years old, he became a clerk in a little pioneer store in Illinois. We have all, probably heard the stories of his honesty while clerk in this On one occasion, a woman came into the store and bought some goods amounting in value to two dollars, six and a quarter cents. When the woman left the store, Mr. Lincoln again added up the bill, and discovered he had charged the woman six and a quarter cents too much. He closed up the store and, although it was night, walked several miles to the woman's house and returned the money to her. Other similar stories have been told which furnish good grounds for the name which was applied to him by all the people who knew him "Honest Abe." Abraham Lincoln was never able to cherish resentment for anyone While clerk in the aforementioned store, he once had occasion to fight

with a man who was a decided bully. Mr. Lincoln fought coolly and col-lectedly and thoroughly defeated his opponent. He then gathered some smart weed and rubbed it in the man's eyes until he cried with pain. All this had been done without any feelings of anger on Mr. Lincoln's part, only a desire to give the man a So he now got some water and washed out the eyes of the thoroughly humiliated man, who afterwards became a firm friend of Mr. Mr. Lincoln had always craved for an education. It was while he was

clerk in the little pioneer store, that he began his study of English gram-mar. When he had completed his study of the grammar book, he is said to have remarked that if the other sciences were no harder than the one he had just studied, he thought he could "subdue another." All his leisure moments were now spent in study. A gentleman of this period told his friends that when he first saw Lincoln, he was stretched on a trundle bed covered with books and papers, some of which he was reading. With his foot, Mr. Lincoln was pushing a cradle, in which his landlady's baby lay. Can we wonder that Mr. Lincoln was beloved by all who knew him, when we think how willing he was to do a kindly act for a friend? The Black Hawk War broke out about this time. Mr. Lincoln was appointed captain of a little body or volunteers. It is interesting to note that two of the simplest and humblest of men, Abraham Lincoln and Zachary Taylor afterwards became presidents of the United States. After the Black Hawk War, Mr. Lincoln bought a store in partnership with an acquaintance. The

partnership failed, but Mr. Lincoln worked until he had paid his and his partner's debts. He, then, served as postmaster in his village, having been appointed by President Jackson. In this position Lincoln had a good opportunity to read plenty of newspapers and he improved his opportunity. In those days, one did not meet uniformed mail carriers with leather letter bags, Mr. Lincoln, for example, took the mail around to the villagers in his

Mr. Lincoln's reading of Henry Clay's life had made him desirous of becoming a great lawyer and politician. While he served as postmaster, he read a great many political papers. He became very well known among the villagers, not only in carrying out his duties as postmaster, but also as a surveyor. veyor he became acquainted with people outside of his village. Then, too, he made a few political speeches which brought him a still greater number of friends and acquaintances. So when he was nominated as candidate for the legislature in eighteen hundred and thirty-four, he was elected by a large majority.

From this time on, Mr. Lincoln's rise was steady and sure. He had become prominent throughout Illihis part in changing the nois for capital of Illinois from Vandalia to Springfield. It was about this time that he became acquainted with Soon after his Stephen Douglas. acquaintance with this man, Mr. Lincoln moved to Springfield, and there his career as lawyer began. Mr. Lincoln was a weak lawyer on the weak side. He always refused

to-take-a-case - unless - he was sure

that often the temptation to hear nei lies at this point. Passing through were unfit for ladies to hear. He told these stories as a child might tell an amusing tale, without any

thought of wrong doing.
We cannot but marvel when think of Mr. Lincoln's rise from one of the lowliest to the highest position in the land. How nobly he acted in that position we all know. without a murmur, but was always cheerful and kindhearted The soldiers had their greatest friend in Abraham Lincoln. Is it any wonder that the whole nation mourned temptations may be set you.

Some are born great, some become issue of the war? We, too, feel achieve greatness themselves are the moved when we think of the noble ones who last.

This concluded the reading of the essays, and after a selection by the chorus, "Protect Them, Almighty," Miss Laing gave her valedictory address, as follows:

Vaeldictory.

Gentlemen of the Board of Educa-

We thank you for the opportunities you have so generously given for developing the best that is in us. Perhaps we may sometimes have appeared not to make the best use of them, but, as we look back we can more

that we shall know what an influence much your kindly supervision has Howard Lyons Stone, Nathan Hark you have had upon our lives, and how meant to us. We thank you from our hearts for all that you have done and trust that your precepts may be exemplified in our lives. Schoolmates:-

The future welfare of our dear old high school depends upon you. Our work here whether success or failure is completed. These high school years are perhaps the best of our lives, and they are years which have much to do with the formation of character. Make the most of your time now, let each effort be your best effort, that the realization of lost opportunities may not come to you too late. The class of 910 wish you every success in school life, and at its close satisfaction of well-earned achievement.

It is hard to say farewell. We can scarcely realize that our four years together are over, and that we must go on alone to undertake our life work. Our work, heretofore, has seemed partly play, but now we must face the stern realities and responsibilities of life, and we must face them with a courage born of a determination to succeed, in spite of every ob-

And When our work is done, And life's long school is o'er,

By each may Heaven's blest prize be

A crown forevermore.

Words of Superintendent. In presenting the diplomas to the members of the class Dr. Deane, superintendent of schools, took occa-

Mr. Lincoln inherited his sense of he took pleasure in presenting them humor from his father. He was so to the public. Every individual of fond of telling humorous stories, this public, to which you now belong, he said, must give service to the pubhis companions laugh with him prov-ed so great, that he told stories which of instruction you have every right to receive credit, and you are now ready to work for the good of the public. All must receive and all must give something. Few living subscribe to the socialist idea of all property ownership in common, and most of us believe in the idea of wages, of saleries, as an incentive to ambition. What I wish to impress upon you is He bore the burden of the Civil War without a murmur but was always

for the ruler assassinated in his great, and others have greatness moment of rejoicing over the happy thrust upon them, but those who

man. who grew up without a vice among the roughest and simplest each his or her diploma. It is the first time for a number of years where every member of the class has been present at this ceremony, some having in past years failed in the final examinations. This concluded the exercises, which were followed by the

singing of the class hymn. Following the conclusion of the exercises there was an informal recep-tion upon the stage by the graduates, who were showered with congratula-tions by their friends.

Following are the members of the College Prepartory. Maude Elizabeth Burgess, Roth Mary Coulter, Lillian Louise Jones. but, as we look back we can more fully appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness in our behalf.

The Superintendent:

Through out entire school life we have felt your influence, guiding and directing us in the in the right way. As a class we represent the product of the splendid school system, which owes so much to you, and we are gald that, to-night, we have the opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks for your interest in us.

Our Principal:

Words cannot express the gratitude we owe to you. But we shall try to show it by following your advice as we go out in the world, so that, by our lives, you may see that we have heeded your kind and helpful words. Our Teachers:

We do not realize as yet how much we owe to you. It is only when we are thrown upon our own resources, that we shall know what an influence you have had upon our lives, and how pard Phineas Saltman, Willis

ness Whipple. Mary Nash Barker, Evelyn Mary Barkey, Nisholine Bruce, Eliza Gre-gory Burroughs, Mabel Sherwood Agnes Dargan, Marguerite Mary Devine, Evelyn Derothy Dayle, Julia Agnes Fenton, Catherine Cecilia Galvin, Grace Boughten Hall, Efficabeth Marion Hawkins, Annie Almira Herton, Annie Murray Laing, Grace Udell Rich, Elizabeth Francis Roche, Mary Agnes Steele, Sarah Leuise Williams.

General Course.

Mary Theresa Connelly, Catherine
Irone Donovan, Ethel Marguerite Pe-

Ethel May Borstelman, Eugena Harriet Campana, Hazel Marion Cavanaugh, Mary Ancilla Con-grove, Charlette Margaerite Cosier, Mae Gertrude Farrell, Bara Angusta Gerbich, Madeline Geraldine Harrison, Dorothy Mabel Huggins, Helena Mary Hulten, Verenica Lorine Kelley, Mary Genevieve Kilcourse, Lydia Kohier, Anna Krussiyak, Anna Elizabeth Lar-Anna Krusslyak, Anna Elizabeth Larsen, Agnes Veronica Light, Mabei Alma Morrison, Elsie May Philips,
Florence Emma Porter, Gladys Mary
Ross, Christine Peterson Serup, Elsie
Marie Stackman, Mary Veronica Sullivan, Ella Marguerite Thomas, Elsie May Tuttle, Mildreil Grace Vanstone, Ruth Mildred Whiever, Nettle
Amelia Wilsen, Ruth Maxion Worden,
Bernard Faust, Herbert Eyre Reid,
Harry John Strasburges

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